Kennedy book to be cut by 1,600 words

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NEW YORK, Thursday.

AN agreement, reached late last night between Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy and *Look*, has cleared the way for publication in the magazine of excerpts from William Manchester's book "The Death of a President."

Under the agreement, 1,600 words are to be deleted from the four-part 80,000-word serialisation which *Look* is to print, beginning on Jan. 10. A spokesman for the magazine said Mr. Manchester was substantially in agreement with the changes made.

Lawyers for Harper and Row, publishers of the book, said the firm "will be very glad" to reach a similar out-of-court agreement.

The lawyers were granted a postponement until Tuesday of the deadline for filing legal papers in the action brought by Mrs. Kennedy to prevent publication of the book.

The material excised under last night's agreement will all be of a personal nature. Most of it was taken from Mrs. Kennedy's tape-recorded conversations with Mr. Manchester.

In a statement on the settlement, Mrs. Kennedy emphasised that neither she nor Senator Robert Kennedy, brother of the assassinated President, had approved the book's contents.

Mrs. Kennedy said: "I have been told there are historical inaccuracies and unfair references in this book.

"However, it was clear before bringing this suit that historical judgments, even if inaccurate, could not properly be suppressed by a court of law."

Johnson's role

Her words are interpreted as an indirect allusion to passages which deal harshly with President Johnson's actions after her husband's assassination. Such allegations may well make Senator Robert Kennedy's future relations with the President difficult.

She may also have had in mind a point raised by Theodore H. White, the well-known American political writer, in a letter published today in the *New York Times*.

Mr. White is understood to have refused to write a book about the assassination on the terms Mr. Manchester accepted, approval of the manuscript by Mrs. Kennedy.

In his letter he noted that many people supplied material to Mr. Manchester at Mrs. Kennedy's request which "they would never have dreamed of making public except for their trust in her final authority over its use."

UNCUT VERSION

Germans go ahead

OUR BONN CORRESPONDENT telephoned last night: The Hamburg illustrated weekly *Der Stern* announced tonight it would publish the serialised version of "The Death of a President" in full, beginning on Jan. 17.

Herr Nannen, editor of the magazine, said it had paid *Look* $72,500 (£25,890) for the publication rights. The contract did not provide for any alterations in text.

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